



Review of the genus *Hongkongia* (Araneae: Gnaphosidae) from China

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Abstract

The spider genus *Hongkongia* Song et Zhu, 1998, belonging to the *Echemus* group, is reviewed. A new species, *Hongkongia songi* **sp. nov.**, is described, and the type species, *Hongkongia wuae* Song et Zhu, 1998 is redescribed.

Key words: Araneae, Gnaphosidae, *Hongkongia*, new species, Taiwan, China

Introduction

Gnaphosidae is a large, diverse family, containing 110 genera and 2036 species (Platnick 2009). Gnaphosids are predominantly ground-living spiders, which during the day hide in silk retreats under stones or surface debris, but sometimes also retreat to rolled-up tree leaves. They are most often collected in ground traps or leaf litter. They are particularly diverse under relatively dry conditions and most species live in temperate regions.

The genus *Hongkongia* was erected by Song & Zhu in 1998 based on a single male, the type species *H. wuae* Song & Zhu, 1998, and was thus a monotypic spider genus. Deeleman-Reinhold (2001) redescribed the genus, and besides the type species, she tentatively added two new species, *H. caeca* and *H. reatrix*, both known from females only. Murphy (2007) described and illustrated in detail the male of *H. reatrix*. To date, the genus *Hongkongia* has three species, mainly distributed in Southeast Asia, including China (Hongkong, Yunnan) and Indonesia (Java, Borneo, Sulawesi and Moluccas) (Deeleman-Reinhold 2001, Platnick 2009).

When examining the spider specimens collected by Dr. Xie Yu-Long from Kenting National Park, Taiwan in 2000 and 2001, we found a few gnaphosid species. Among them, a new species *Hongkongia songi* **sp. nov.**, with both male and female, is recognized and described below. Additionally, we have re-examined and redescribed *H. wuae* Song & Zhu, 1998, and revised the generic characters based on the two species included in this paper, Deeleman-Reinhold's (2001) description and Murphy's (2007) illustration. This genus was included in the *Echemus* group in the family Gnaphosidae by Murphy (2007).

Materials and methods

All measurements given in the text are in millimeters unless indicated otherwise. Carapace length was measured from the anterior face of the ocular area to the rear margin of the carapace medially, excluding the clypeus. Total length is the sum of carapace and abdomen length, regardless of the petiolus. The measurements of leg are as follow: total length (femur + patella + tibia + metatarsus + tarsus). All specimens are preserved in 75% alcohol and were examined, drawn and measured under a Tech XTL-II stereomicroscope equipped with an Abbe drawing device. Epigyna were removed and cleared in 10% warm